Message Text

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CONFIDENTIAL SINAI 1320

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FOR SSM

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: POL, UN

SUBJECT: UN IMPROVEMENT OF PEACEKEEPING CAPABILITY

REF: STATE 151081

1. SUMMARY. A SMALL TASK FORCE OF UN OFFICERS IN JERUSALEM HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO PREPARE FOR UNNY PLANS FOR IMPROVING UN MONITORING OF PEACEKEEPING ARRANGEMENTS. PLANS ARE INTENDED PRIMARILY FOR GOLAN AREA BUT ARE TO INCLUDE OTHER REQUIREMENTS. TASK FORCE (TF) IS DIRECTED TO DISREGARD POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. UNTSO COMMANDER GENERAL PHILIPS INTERESTED IN TV OR VIDEO TAPING CAPABILITY WHICH WOULD PROVIDE RECORD OF VIOLATIONS. UNEF CHIEF OF STAFF NIHLEN HAS EXPRESSED NEED FOR AIR TRACKING AND IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM. DRAFT PLAN WAS DISCUSSED WITH SFM DIRECTOR IN JERUSALEM JUNE 23 AND AT SFM JUNE 27 DURING VISIT TF CHAIRMAN LT. COL PECK (AUSTRALIA). SFM ENCOURAGED THIS UN INITIATIVE AND AGREED ASSIST AS POSSIBLE.

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2. GOLAN MONITORING, TF EXPLAINED, NOW HAS SEVERAL WEAKNESSES. THE ELEVEN OBSERVATION POSTS WERE PLACED IN SERIES ALONG 1967 FRONTIER. THIS GIVES LINE OF SIGHT FROM ONE OP TO NEXT AND MEANS OF MONITORING THE LINE. BUT PRESENT PLACEMENT DOES NOT PROVIDE UNIFORMLY GOOD OBSERVATION IN DEPTH OF AREAS BEYOND LINE.

- 3. THE OPS ARE STAFFED BY TWO MEN WITH BINOCULARS AND NO NIGHT OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT. TF ESTIMATES BATTALION COULD BE SLIPPED THROUGH UNOBSERVED AT SEVERAL POINTS DURING NIGHTS IF MOVED QUIETLY.
- 4. BINOCULARS USED ARE WWI TRENCH TYPE MOUNTED ON TRIPOD WITH 360 DEGREES RADIUS AND 180 DEGREE AZIMUTH. THEY ARE NOT MOBILE AND ARE DIFFICULT TO USE FOR AIR OBSERVATION AND POSITION FIXES. TABLES PREPARED FOR AZIMUTH SHOOTINGS ASSUME ONE STANDARD AIRCRAFT HEIGHT OF 15,000 FEET AS HAVE NO MEANS MEASURE IT. ANY DIFFERENCE IN ACTUAL HEIGHT OF PLANE MAKES UN'S REPORTED GROUND POSITION INCORRECT.
- 5. TF IS PLANNING FOR SYSTEM OF WATCH STATIONS, EACH WITH OBSERVATION POSTS ARRANGED IN LINE OR IN CLUSTER. WATCH STATIONS AND OPS TO BE MOVABLE BUT SUFFICIENTLY SOLID TO PROVIDE PHYSICAL SECURITY FROM MEDIUM MORTARS OR ROCKETS. THEY WOULD BE MANNED BY MINIMUM TWO OFFICERS.
- 6. TF PLACING EMPHASIS FIRST ON PRESENCE OF PERSONNEL AND LOCATION OF STATIONS. WOULD THEN ADD SENSOR SYSTEMS AS APPROPRIATE. MAXIMUM DESIRED SENSOR CAPABILITY WOULD BE DETECTION OF MAN AT 10 KILOMETERS, JEEP AT 20, TANK AT 25, AND AIRCRAFT AT 100. THIS WOULD TO BE SCALED DOWN IN OPTIONS ACCORDING EQUIPMENT AVAILABILITY AND COSTS. RTDBSE HAVE BOTH OPEN AND SECURE CONFIDENTIAL

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COMMUNICATION SYSTEM. SOME DESCRIPTIONS GERMAN AND JAPANESE EQUIPMENT ALREADY AVAILABLE.

- 7. SFM REPRESENTATIVES, ON BASIS PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, SUPPORTED TF EMPHASIS ON IMPORTANCE PRESENCE PERSONNEL, GOOD VISUAL/COMMUNICATION LOCATION, SECURITY, AND MOBILITY. OBSERVED THAT SENSOR REQUIREMENTS HOWEVER WERE RATHER FAR REACHING. NOTED ALSO THAT EFFECTIVENESS DEPENDED EQUALLY ON SUCH INTANGIBLES AS MANNER EXECUTION (FIRMNESS, ACCURACY, SPEED), TERMS OF REFERENCE AGREED TO BY PARTIES, AND QUALITY LIAISON ESTABLISHED WITH PARTIES.
- 8. AT REQUEST TF, SFM WILL PROVIDE ESTIMATES ON MAINTENANCE STAFFING AND COSTS PLUS SUPPLY NEEDS. CONSULATION AND FOLLOW UP WITH SFM WERE APPROVED BY UN CHIEF COORDINATOR SIILASVUO.
- 9. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH CONSIDER WHAT TECHNICAL SENSOR SYSTEM ADVICE MIGHT ALSO BE PROVIDED AND WHETHER EQUIPMENT MIGHT BE OFFERED.
 ROBERTS

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